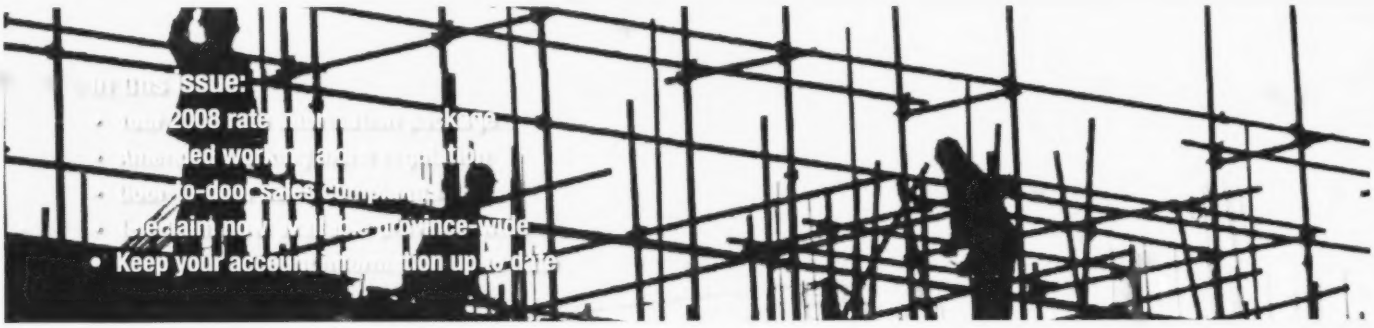
NEWS UPDATE

DECEMBER 2007

WORK SAFE
WORKING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
worksafebc.com



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- Amended working alone regulation
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- Reclaim now available province-wide
- Keep your account information up to date

By now, you should have received an information package that outlines your rate for 2008, your experience rating adjustment (if applicable), plus details about claims your firm may have incurred. If you opened your account after October 5, when we printed the packages, you probably received a letter outlining your 2007 and 2008 rates instead.

If you haven't received the package or the letter, please contact our Employer Service Centre at 604 244-6181 or toll-free at 1 888 922-2768. To view rate information for any year from 2001 up to the present, visit **www.worksafebc.com/insurance/premiums/rate_information_packages**.

Amended working alone regulation

WorkSafeBC has amended the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation to improve health and safety for individuals working alone or in isolation. The amendments will require mandatory pre-payment at gas stations throughout the province and introduce new requirements to protect workers working alone.

The amendments formally acknowledge the potential for violence and injury facing individuals who work alone, particularly those in late-night retail establishments such as gas stations and convenience stores.

The new requirements will be effective February 1, 2008. For the complete news release, visit **www.worksafebc.com/news_room/default.asp**.

Door-to-door sales complaints

WorkSafeBC has received complaints from businesses that people are approaching them and pressuring them to buy safety posters to be in compliance with the Occupational Health and Safety Regulation. However, these sales are not authorized by WorkSafeBC, nor is it necessary to buy these items in order to comply.

For example, last summer, a manager of a Richmond-based retail store was approached by two young men claiming to sell posters that would help his business comply with WorkSafeBC regulations. The manager was skeptical, so he took a business card from the men, declined their offer, and immediately contacted WorkSafeBC.

If posters are necessary for compliance, they are available for free from **WorkSafeBCstore.com**.

If you experience an incident like this, contact the Employers' Advisers Office at eao@eao-bc.org.

HELPFUL RESOURCES

The OHS Regulation CD has been recently updated. It contains information essential to understanding and meeting the minimum requirements for health and safety in the workplace in B.C. The CD includes:

- Excerpts and summaries of the *Workers Compensation Act*
- Occupational Health & Safety Regulation
- Guidelines for the Regulation
- Prevention policies
- WorkSafeBC standards

Having a copy of the CD is an easy and convenient way to make the Regulation easily accessible to your workers – and thus fulfill your duty.

To view, download, or order a CD of the recently updated Regulation, visit **www2.worksafebc.com/Publications/OHSRegulation/Home.asp**.

Teleclaim – WorkSafeBC's new call centre for worker claims – is now available throughout all of B.C. Workers can report their time-loss injuries over the phone rather than filling out and submitting forms. The new process is quicker and easier than before and provides more personalized service up front. Teleclaim also ensures that employers are notified of any worker injuries.

Teleclaim is open Monday to Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at 1 888 WORKERS (1 888 967-5377), or #5377 for Telus, Rogers, and Bell Mobility customers.

To order free Teleclaim materials for your workplace, including a poster that explains what workers should do if they are injured at work, visit our online store at **www.worksafebcstore.com**.

The mountain pine beetle has infested B.C.'s woods with safety hazards. Now, the forest industry fights back.

To read this story and learn about other helpful workplace tools, and to find out how to subscribe, visit **WorkSafeMagazine.com**.

Have you changed the way your firm operates? Are you doing business in a new way? Have you moved? Let us know. Changing your business operations may result in a new classification or a different rate. Also, contact us if you close your business or change your company's name, address, operating location, or type of operation.

To report these changes, call our Employer Service Centre at 604 244-6181 or 1 888 922-2768. You can also update your account information online by visiting **WorkSafeBC.com** and selecting "Change address/account info" under the "Insurance" heading.

Truck Loggers Association Convention & Expo
January 15 - 18, 2008

Vancouver Convention & Exhibition Centre
www.tla.ca

Western Silvicultural Contractors' Association Conference
February 6 - 8, 2008

Sun Peaks Resort, Kamloops
www.wsca.ca

Health and Safety Canada 2008
Industrial Accident Prevention Association
Conference & Trade Show

April 21 - 23, 2008
Metro Toronto Convention Centre
www.iapa.ca

Day of Mourning
April 28, 2008
www.worksafebc.com/news_room/campaigns/day_of_mourning/default.asp

Did You Know?

The 2008 average base rate for workers' compensation insurance will be the lowest rate for B.C. employers in more than 30 years.

Popular contacts

- Claims Call Centre 604 231-8888, toll-free 1 888 967-5377
- Employer Service Centre 604 244-6181
  toll-free 1 888 922-2768
- Prevention Information Line 604 276-3100
  toll-free 1 888 621-7233
- Human Resources 604 276-3009, toll-free 1 888 757-5552
- Report fraud 1 877 523-3315

News Update is published by the Communications Services Department of WorkSafeBC – the Workers' Compensation Board of B.C.

This newsletter is also available electronically on the WorkSafeBC web site at **http://www.worksafebc.com/publications/newsletters/news_update/**

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